



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 29 2013

THE ADMINISTRATOR

The Honorable Chris Christie  
Governor of New Jersey  
Office of the Governor  
Post Office Box 001  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Governor Christie:

Thank you for your letter of November 28, 2012, regarding New Jersey's preferred cleanup plan for the Lower Eight Miles of the Lower Passaic River. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency fully agrees with the need to protect public health and the environment through the remediation of the Passaic River, and shares your hope for restoring the environmental and economic vitality of the river and neighboring communities.

The EPA regional staff who manage the Passaic River cleanup project met on December 12 and 13, 2012, with the EPA's National Remedy Review Board to present an approach to remediating the Lower Eight Miles of the Lower Passaic River. Representatives of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection also attended the meeting and presented the state's position. The Board is expected to respond to the region's approach in approximately one month. The EPA will consider the Board's comments in finalizing the study and proposed plan for the Passaic River, which we expect to release for public review and comment in mid-2013.

Thank you for supporting the cleanup of the Passaic River and the need to protect public health and the environment. Again, thank you for your letter. If you have further questions, please contact me or your staff may call Sarah Hospodor-Pallone, Deputy Associate Administrator for Intergovernmental Relations, at 202-564-7178.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa P. Jackson", is written over a horizontal line.

Lisa P. Jackson